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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)			

Express Mail No.: ER224694965US	APPLICANT STRATTON et al.
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
<i>ML</i>		4,263,060	Apr. 21, 1981	Gaucher et al.	148	6.3	
<i>ML</i>		5,316,594	May 31, 1994	Kemp	148	2-81	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
<i>ML</i>	A	JP 03 036257	February 15, 1991	JAPAN			X
<i>ML</i>	B	0 388 710 B1	February 16, 1994	EPO			X
<i>ML</i>	C	JP 07 180025	July 18, 1995	JAPAN			X
<i>ML</i>	D	96/23908	August 8, 1996	WO			X
<i>ML</i>	E	0 580 081B1	March 26, 1997	EPO			X
<i>ML</i>	F	98/02595	January 22, 1998	WO			X
<i>ML</i>	G	99/04055	January 28, 1999	PCT			X

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

<i>ML</i>	AQ	SURFACE HARDENING OF TITANIUM BY OXYGEN; Transactions of the Japan Institute of Metals, Japan Institute of Metals, Sandai, JP vol. 3, 1962; pages 10-14, XP002080647 ISSN: 0021-4434 Figures 1-3 (no month)
<i>ML</i>	AR	FATIGUE PROPERTIES OF ZINC SINGLE CRYSTALS AND POLYCRYSTALS, I. FATIGUE STRENGTH; Jiro Watanabe; February 17, 1962
<i>ML</i>	AP	PCT International Search Report; October 15, 2003; EPO; Examiner G. Badcock.
<i>ML</i>	AO	PCT International Preliminary Examination Report; May 13, 2004.

EXAMINER <i>Labella</i>	DATE CONSIDERED 7/5/06
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.